



Check out page 6
to see how the
men's and women's
basketball teams
fared over the
winter break.

thursday, january 14, 2009

Site council reports at special Board meeting

Lauren Garrison | COLLEGIAN

The Manhattan-Ogden USD 383 Board of Education held a special meeting last night at 5:30 p.m. to hear the postponed contract and site council reports for the six Manhattan-area elementary schools: Woodrow Wilson, Lee, Marlatt, Ogden, Theodore Roosevelt and Amanda Arnold.

The seven members of the Board of Education, along with each of the elementary schools' principals and the middle schools' principals, were all present to listen and ask questions regarding the site council reports.

According to usd383.org, the Manhattan school district's Web site, a site council is a group composed of the principal, teachers, staff and parents of students at a school who are responsible for providing advice and counsel in evaluating the school's performance goals and objectives. The site council also determines methods that should be implemented at the respective school in order to meet these goals and objectives.

The information the site council comes up with is then written into a report for the school's leaders to utilize. The purpose of

See BOARD, Page 7

UPC puts students' art on display

Tiara Williams | COLLEGIAN

From cardboard cut-outs to Wildcat World, artists' works are displayed in colorful arrays in the William T. Kemper Art Gallery. Black history month, photography contests and more are all shown there on the first floor of the K-State Student Union. The exhibits, which are held by the Union Program Council, are held for two to three weeks at a time.

Ashley Moore, UPC Arts Committee co-chair, said UPC likes to expose visitors and students to as many different types of artwork as they can.

The latest gallery being shared, "Apples and Such" by Connie Fitzpatrick, freshman in fine arts, is available for spectators to see apples in many different lights, besides a simple fruit.

Moore said it is usually those who are persistent and confident in their dreams that go to UPC.

"She is a student here," Moore said. "We like as UPC like to promote students' work and what students here are working on. We thought Connie represented the school in a great way with her art. She is very talented."

Not only were Moore and the UPC Arts Committee blown away by the delicacy and creativity of Fitzpatrick, but outsiders were as well.

"My favorite is the 'Playa de Arena Azul.' It looks nice, and I like the feeling," said Kirk Bodendistel, freshman in pre-medicine and friend of Fitzpatrick.

Lovers of Fitzpatrick's "Apples and Such" went beyond friends.

"I always come in when there is new artwork. My favorite is 'Rainy Day' and 'Playa de Arena Azul.' Those two seem to actually capture the essence of their titles," said Pang Her, junior in public relations.

Fitzpatrick said positive feedback from her work raises her confidence level. She believes she was born with this passion to create and made it a personal goal to have her pieces up somewhere on K-State's campus.

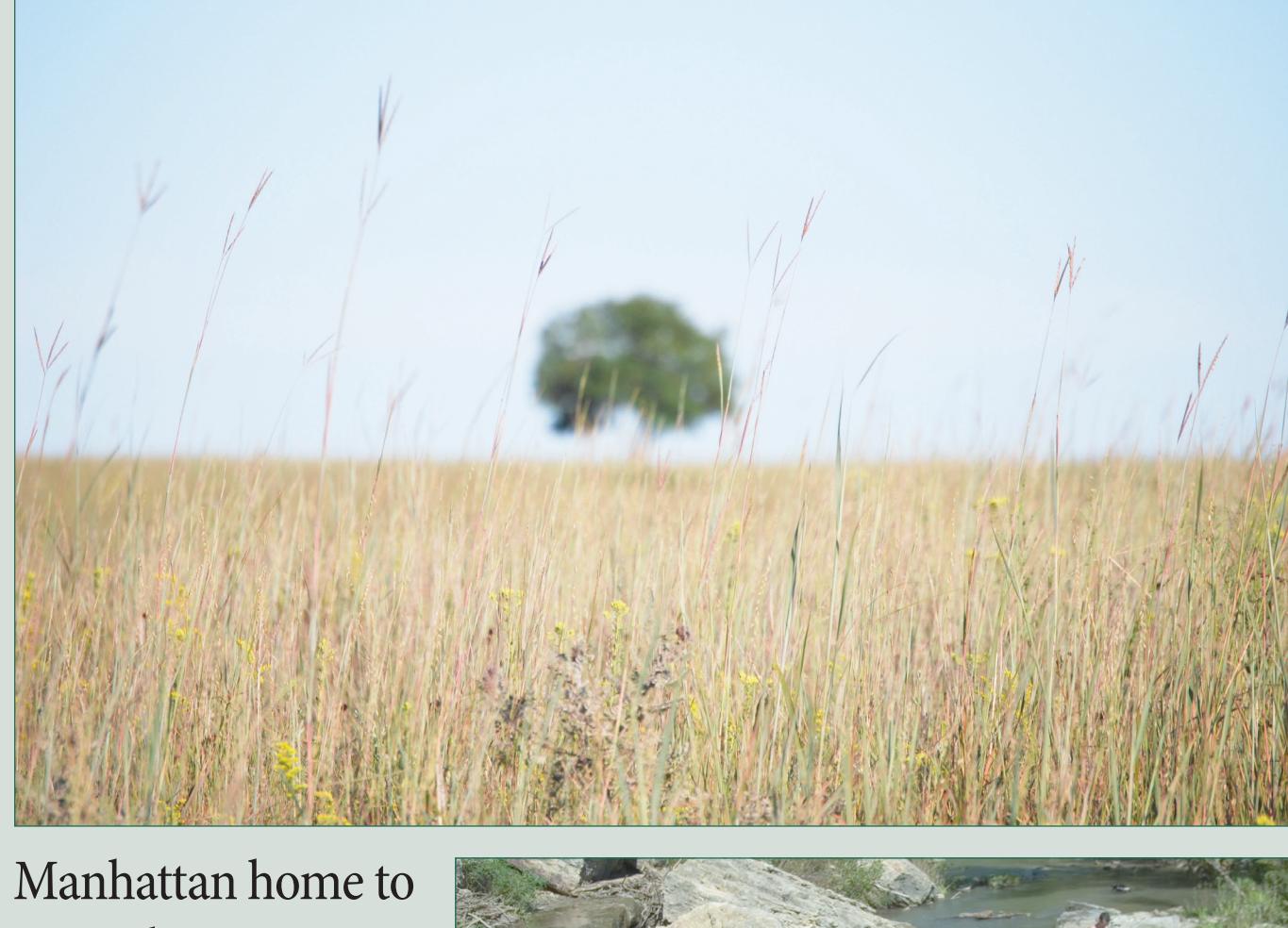
Moore said UPC usually puts up student work in the spring because by then, potential artists have a good selection from fall semester projects. Students' work is displayed as first come first serve.

"Generally, we don't have to contact students. We have in the past, of course, but usually students come to us. Connie did, wanting to display," Moore said.

Fitzpatrick went for the opportunity. She contacted UPC in the fall of

See ART, Page 7

Wonders Never Cease



Manhattan home to natural attractions

Caitlyn Mason | COLLEGIAN

The Kansas Sampler Foundation recently announced they are considering two outdoor attractions located in Manhattan to be a part of their "8 Wonders of Kansas Geography Award." Pillsbury Crossing Wildlife Area and the Konza Prairie trails were both selected as finalists, along with 22 other Kansas locations from a list of 76 public nominations.

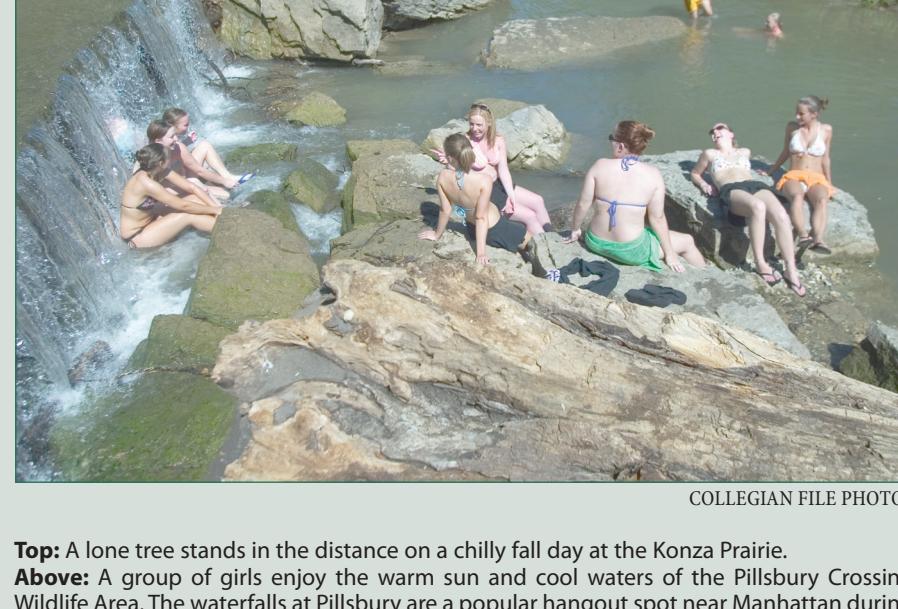
The criteria by which these locations were selected were simple. The location had to be part of nature, had to have a "wow" factor, and it had to be unique to Kansas. Other finalists include Mount Sunflower in Wallace county, Four State Lookout in White Cloud, and Geographic Center of the United States near Lebanon.

Pillsbury Crossing, named after Josiah Pillsbury, who settled in Manhattan in 1855, is located seven miles south of Manhattan near Deep Creek Road and Pillsbury Crossing Road.

The site is home to a 60-foot wide and five-foot high waterfall coming off of a flat, natural limestone shelf.

The Crossing has attracted visitors since it became part of a 59-acre wildlife area run by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. The river is a popular fishing spot because it is one of few places in Kansas where spotted bass naturally occur.

The Crossing was nominated because of its uncommon features - the waterfall and limestone shelf, and spotted bass fishing - and its popularity with the locals of Manhattan.



COLLEGIAN FILE PHOTOS

Top: A lone tree stands in the distance on a chilly fall day at the Konza Prairie.

Above: A group of girls enjoy the warm sun and cool waters of the Pillsbury Crossing Wildlife Area. The waterfalls at Pillsbury are a popular hangout spot near Manhattan during the summer.

The Konza trails, located about six miles south of Manhattan off of McDowell Creek Road, provide six miles of hiking trails twisting through parts of the Flint Hills. The trails are open to the public from dusk to dawn year-round, and there are three different loops for hikers and visitors to choose from: two, four or six miles around.

These trails cut through the tall-grass prairie and through the forested areas of Kings Creek while allowing hikers to experience several scenic overlooks over vast tracts offered by the Flint Hills.

The Konza Prairie was recently brought to the public eye by an article

published in May 2009 by Backpacker magazine, which named it one of the top 100 day hikes in America.

The purpose of the 8 Wonders project is to help educate people about the state of Kansas and what it has to offer. Manhattan is the only city that has had two locations nominated.

The Manhattan Convention and Visitors Bureau is encouraging people to get involved and show their local pride by voting online at 8wonders.org, or by submitting a paper ballot. The paper ballots are available at the Manhattan CVB office, which is located at 501 Poyntz Ave. The applications are due by midnight Feb. 17.

Parking garage convenience comes with cost

Maura Wery | COLLEGIAN

It is back to classes for K-State students, and with the beckoning of another semester at hand, there are the ever-looming expenses that come with starting a new semester. Books, tuition, school supplies and an object essential for many students: the parking permit.

Students who live off campus, in the residence halls and in Jardine Apartment Complex are all required to have some kind of parking permit. These permits allow students to park on the few designated lots around the campus, but parking does not come cheap.

There are three different parking permits that are used for K-State: an off-campus permit for students who do not live in residence halls and are only permitted to park in O lots, a permit for Jardine that allows students to park in the Jardine parking lots or J lots, and residence hall permits that allow students to park in lots of their residence halls or R lots only.

But the permit prices are not cheap, as Darwin Abbott, director of parking services said.

"They are all the same price,"



Top: The parking garage offers a great alternative for students and visitors parking on campus. It is conveniently located near the K-State Student Union. Students can purchase an RFID card or pay per hour to park.

Abbott said. "The price for a parking permit is \$80 for fall semester then \$90 for spring because they are pro-rated. If you know you are going to be here you can buy a permit for the entire year, which is \$150."

There is another option for parking that students can use with or without a parking permit, which is the new parking garage located in front of the K-State Student Union off of Anderson Ave.

Gary Leitnaker, assistant

vice president for the Division of Human Resources, says the garage has just recently been completely opened.

"The rest of the garage has opened up," Leitnaker said.

"The bridge is open now. One of the elevators is working."

Leitnaker said he expected to see the second elevator open on Tuesday.

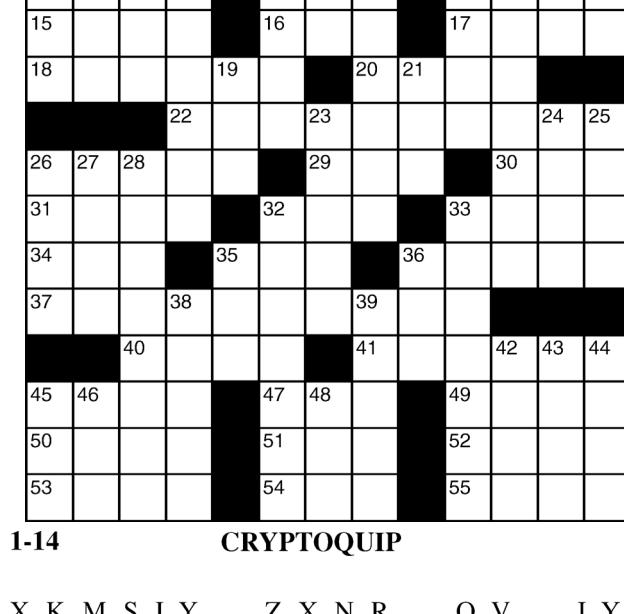
The completed garage will be open for the rest of the semester. However, what will the garage cost to park in - with or without a parking permit?

"I live in the residence hall, and so I have a residence hall parking permit," Heimbach said. "Really I just see it as another way for the dorms to get more money out of you, but because I live here I have it. I can use it to drive to campus but I'm only ten minutes away."

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PG 4:00 6:30 9:10

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DAILY BLOTER

TUESDAY

Jeffrey Evan Jones, 1022 Gardenway Apt. A, was arrested at 7:34 a.m. for assault of a law enforcement officer. Bond was set at \$1,000.

Rebecca Lynn Wilt, 2825 Lawrence Rd., was arrested at 2:44 p.m. for probation violation. Bond was set at \$625.50.

Martin Josh Hungerford, 612 Butterfield Rd., was arrested at 11:53 a.m. for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$1,000.

Jessica Delle Tennyson, Ogden, was arrested at 12:45 p.m. for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$3,000.

Zachary Issac Rempel,

2210 Casement Rd., was arrested at 8:35 p.m. for purchase or consumption of alcohol by a minor and possession of a simulated controlled substance and unlawful possession of a depressant. Bond was set at \$1,500.

Ryan Mathew Calmes, 1123 Colorado St., was arrested at 10:40 a.m. for battery. Bond was set at \$625.50.

Raymond Charles Kimmel, Ogden, was arrested at 7:15 p.m. for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$750.

WEDNESDAY

Jasper Dan Plummer, Riley, was arrested at 7:15 p.m. for driving on a cancelled or suspended license. Bond was set at \$500.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call news editor Bethany Wallace at 785-532-6556 or e-mail news@spub.ksu.edu.

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14 Rhyming

thursday, january 14, 2009

kansas state collegian

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

Aries March 21 - April 19
Go ahead and take that photo now. Worry about it ending up on *Facebook.com* later.

Taurus April 20 - May 20
Odds are K-State is screwing you out of your money somehow. Pay them back by using extra toilet paper.

Gemini May 21 - June 21
If the bird is the word, what does that make you?... Due to the vulgar nature of the answer, the Student Publication Inc., has requested we not print the answer.

Cancer June 22 - July 22
You should really have that thing on your forehead looked at. It's starting to look like your mom.

Leo July 23 - Aug. 22
Everyone may be entitled to their own opinions, but you may want to revoke some of your friends' privileges.

Virgo Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
Nickname one of your friends Marcus Nutterius Squirrel and tell them you were inspired to call them that from now on. They will thank you later. Much later.

Libra Sept. 23 - Oct. 23
Note to self: being domestic is not something worth flaunting. No one is impressed, nor will they ever live by such a way of life.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 21
Though it may be January, don't think that Santa doesn't still see you when you're sleeping, or who you're sleeping with.

Sagittarius Nov. 22 - Dec. 21
This is an intervention brought to you by the Collegian: We demand you stop wearing Ugg boots now. What you are doing to the sheep of Australia is sick and wrong.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 19
Telling the truth may not be the easiest thing to do, but in some cases it sure is the funniest thing you can do.

Aquarius Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
Avoid listening to the voices inside your head. They're trying to convince you to help them study for class.

Pisces Feb. 19 - March 20
Go ahead and ask that question ... you already know the answer ... or do you?

Compiled by Timothy Schrag

Second album even better than original

"Contra"

★★★★★

Music review by Tyler Brown

In 2008, Vampire Weekend came onto the alternative music scene with their self-titled debut album. Their debut brought a new sound that combined Paul Simon's GraceLand with poppy lyrics about dissatisfaction. Their music had heart, wit, confidence and was flawless for what it was. I couldn't wait to see how they would follow up such an original debut.

It turns out that "Contra" not only matches "Vampire Weekend" but somehow exceeds it. Vampire Weekend really took the conceptual allure of their debut and refined it for "Contra." The polished drums and guitar bring a greater sense of balance and control to this album. The band decided to further their unique sound by adding hints of hip-hop, electronic and reggae. This experimentation with bold, new sounds can be heard in their song "Diplomat's Son," where I originally thought they had collaborated with electronic artist M.I.A.

If you listen to the lyrics of any song in "Contra," you'll find that Vampire Weekend isn't a band that simply writes songs on subjects they're familiar with; this band has a heart and soul unlike most of what is out there today. If you are searching for a new band to fall in love with, or if you enjoyed Vampire Weekend's debut and you're looking for the next step in their unique sound, then this CD is simply a must-have.

Tyler Brown is a sophomore in English.

Please send comments to edge@spub.ksu.edu.

Regifting not a social faux pas



Aubree Casper

Regifting has become such a common occurrence around the holidays that Merriam-Webster has given the word a spot in its English dictionary after Jerry Seinfeld coined the term in the late 1990s.

In fact, Dec. 17 has been deemed National Regifting Day in light of 2009 survey findings by Money Management International, which found over half of Americans consider regifting socially acceptable if done with a conscience.

While many of us have not had to wear one of those terribly itchy and darn-right disastrous sweaters to please Grammy, thanks to the age of gift cards and media to promote age-appropriate gifts, there is always at least one "present" you enthusiastically accept while thinking of the best way to get rid of it.

Often, all it takes to turn a bad gift into a great one is a trip to the customer service desk at Target or Wal-Mart. According to Target's return policy at their Guest Services desk, "purchases must be returned within 90 days and must be new, unused and contain all original packaging and accessories. A form of personal identification may be required. Some items cannot be returned if opened, including music, movies, video games, software and collectibles."

Wal-Mart's policy allows for returns with a receipt or exchanges for a similar item or store credit with or without a receipt, but there are many exceptions for certain items, and the time limits for returns varies by department, so it is best to check with the store. Smaller stores allow for exchange or store credit without a receipt, but you must spend the amount of the gift within the store so, again, check ahead of time.

It takes a little more creativity, however, if Aunt Sue special-ordered that flower pot and you can't simply return it. Fortunately, all hope isn't lost when it comes to chucking it for something more useful. One man's trash can be another man's treasure. One option to find that greenthumb in Arizona, who would love a nice terra-cotta planter, is using auction sites like *eBay.com* or *Amazon.com*. That way you can either take the cash directly or put whatever you make into buying a more usable gift.

Many gift-givers also assume that a gift card is the way to go, and in most cases it is. There are those shops where almost anybody can find something they like, but if your 13-year-old sister doesn't frequent Home Depot, there are a few Web sites that can help her sell or trade her gift card for one to Forever 21 or AMC Theaters.

TheGiftCardTrader.com is one of many sites that allow users to sell or trade their undesired gift cards for one to a specific store or for money to another user, or they can sell their card (for less than its true value) to the site to get rid of it. *PlasticJungle.com* offers a similar service, but it only buys gift cards and for no more than 90 percent of the actual value. But, if you really will never use it, at least get something for it, right?

If you find figuring out what to do with a gift you won't use to be too time-consuming, take a step towards earning some karma points by donating your gift to Goodwill or the Salvation



Photo Illustrations by Tommy Theis

Army. It was free to begin with, so even though you aren't getting something tangible in return, the good deed will be morally rewarding.

Perhaps the most fun and interesting way to lose the guilt of regifting is to have a regifting party. *Regiftable.com*, a site dedicated to the perils and triumphs of the holiday ritual, recommends this as a social way to not only relieve those moments of disappointment, but to possibly barter with your friends for their gifts. Get together with a large group of friends and take turns presenting your unwanted gifts and taking bids, or set-up a marketplace-like event where people

"buy" one gift with another. You might be surprised to find how many people end up leaving as happy customers (or regifters in this case).

No matter your method of pawning those impractical presents, make sure you have a game plan for how you're going to dodge those pointed questions from that family member when they want to know what you've made with the food processor they gave you. Regifting can be a win-win situation if done right.

Aubree Casper is a junior in life sciences.

Please send comments to edge@spub.ksu.edu.

REGIFTING PARTIES 101

Regifting parties are a great (and cheap) way to get together with friends while trading out those blah and bizarre gifts for ones that might actually be worth holding onto. Here are a few tips on throwing your own party:

Avoid inviting anyone whose gifts you plan on regifting. (Duh.)

If you really want to get into the spirit of things, serve leftovers. Well, maybe not true leftovers, but get creative and go crazy with the "second time around" theme.

Decide ahead of time how you want to go about your exchange. The best methods are either "White Elephant" style, where everyone takes turns choosing a new gift, or the marketplace set-up, where gifts are placed out on tables or just in hand and others can make a bid for a different gift. Either way, things will run more smoothly if they are planned.

Allow for trades so your guests leave as happy as possible, especially if you are planning a White Elephant type of exchange.

If you do decide on a White Elephant exchange, have your guests wrap their gifts ahead of time. It will add to the thrill of having a holiday do-over. In true regifting fashion, encourage your guests to use wrapping such as newspaper, plastic grocery bag, cereal boxes, etc.

Don't expect to walk away with the gift of your dreams. Just look at it as a fun way to get a second chance at improving your holiday swag.

Compiled by Aubree Casper



PHOTO COURTESY OF STOCK.XCHNG

Conflict of Interests

Enlisted women should be required to take birth control



Karen Ingram

Let me tell you a story about two former soldiers I know.

The first one is a tiny thing, four inches shorter than me, but she did two tours in Iraq, and she is one of the toughest human beings I know.

The second one was sent to Afghanistan, and I could tell by the way she moaned about how she didn't want to go that she would not be gone long. Sure enough, she returned within a couple of months, pregnant.

A number of women soldiers who get deployed to places like Iraq or Afghanistan get sent home early because they become pregnant ... while they're over there.

Women are necessary in the military. For example, when patting down suspects to check for weapons, they need women to pat down the women. When a large percentage of the women soldiers get knocked up and sent home early, this creates a negative impact on the rest of the soldiers. In response to this problem, Maj. Gen. Anthony Cucolo issued an order on Nov. 4 stating that any soldier involved in a war-time pregnancy, male or female, could be subject to court martial. As of yet, this rule has not been enforced, but it's still made many people cry foul.

Four Democratic Senators,

all of them women, wrote a letter to Cucolo asking him to rescind that order on Dec. 22, saying, "We can think of no greater deterrent to women contemplating a military career than the image of a pregnant woman being severely punished for conceiving a child."

Talk about missing the point.

These women are not getting pregnant while on home soil with plenty of time to spare before deployment; they are using pregnancy as an excuse to neglect their duties as soldiers in war zones. Either right before they are deployed, or as soon as they set foot over there, they sleep around to intentionally get pregnant so they can leave early. Many capable women soldiers, such as the one I mentioned earlier, face prejudice and ridicule from men because these deserters are giving women soldiers a bad name.

And who could blame the men for being angry for women using pregnancy as an excuse to desert their duties? That isn't fair. The men have no such cop-out available to them unless they desert. Why shouldn't women deserters be punished, too?

If women wish to join the military, they must be just as willing to go to war for their country as any man. Women cannot expect to have equal rights with men if they use reproduction as an excuse to get out of their duties. Women can join the military and have children, but when they are in combat zones, the only thing they should be doing is their job as soldiers. Separate but equal is not equal.



Illustration by Hannah Loftus

Unfortunately, the older I get, the more realistic and cynical I have become. I realize that no matter how much you try to explain to them that they are doing more harm than good for women's rights by copping out on the menfolk, they won't listen. They'll cry and moan about their rights to breed, totally neglecting the fact that they are, first and foremost, soldiers.

Last time I checked, a soldier's body was not his or her

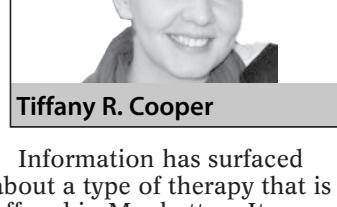
own. Legally, it's government property, which means the government dictates to a soldier what they can and cannot do with his or her body. While this policy has resulted in some very unfortunate incidents, such as the Edgewood experiments, it is supposed to ensure that soldiers are regulated so they can perform their duties as needed.

So, since I can't talk sense into the people who signed up for the job, I have a suggestion for their boss instead: Change the policy. Instead of punishing soldiers for war-zone pregnancy, make it mandatory for all women soldiers to be on birth control. And not just any birth control; make sure it's Depo-Provera, a type of birth control given by injection. If we can't rely on women soldiers to keep their pants on, we can't rely on them to take a pill every day, now can we? Not to mention the fact that, for the legitimate women soldiers, being in a combat zone isn't the best place to remember to take a pill every single day. The Depo-Provera shot, on the other hand, is only needed once every three months. Every soldier is required to get a dozen shots before they go over there anyway, so just add this to their round of inoculations. Problem solved.

I have much respect for all soldiers. I come from a military family myself. If some women demand to be treated as equally as the men, but use excuses to cop out of doing their duty, I say we beat them to the punch and prevent them from doing so by making Depo-Provera mandatory while they are stationed in combat zones. If the chances of a woman soldier becoming pregnant while in combat were basically eliminated by doing so, their fellow soldiers might feel they can count on them more. A soldier in combat has only one duty, and that is to be a soldier, no matter which gender.

Karen Ingram is a sophomore in English. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

Renaming reparative therapy does not make it acceptable



Tiffany R. Cooper

Information has surfaced about a type of therapy that is offered in Manhattan. It regards the change in personal sexual orientation and problems involving sexuality. Whether the newfound light on this therapy causes rational debate or radical behavior, we must remember we are all humans and deserve the same respect, as these basic principles are what allow humans to recognize differences with acceptance.

It seems that reparative therapy has taken on a new name due to the negative stigma that is attached to its meaning. Reparative therapy, conversion therapy ... more like waste-of-time therapy. It seems that if we lump reparative therapy along with other sexuality issues together, then the topic of converting sexual orientation will be overlooked. The onlooker then ignores this atrocity.

What a great marketing av-

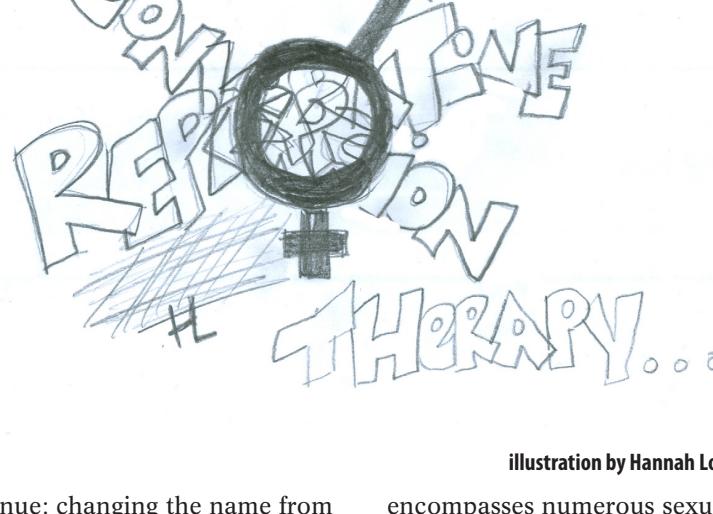


Illustration by Hannah Loftus

enue: changing the name from reparative therapy to conversion therapy so the meaning isn't direct. Who knew that someone seeking help for porn addiction could be grouped into the same category of converting sexual orientation? Yes, the foundation of this therapy is about sex, but I don't believe porn addiction or adultery is genetic like sexual orientation. The labeling of this therapy, conversion therapy, is nothing but a hierarchical system that

encompasses numerous sexual problems with reparative therapy being a branch of the overall goal created by this institution.

There is no practicality in comparing biological nature and the ideological beliefs of morality. It would be futile to debate whether reparative therapies have positive outcomes because there is no hard scientific evidence.

Reparative therapies go off of the premise that sexual orientation is a choice. How many het-

osexual human-beings consciously chose to be heterosexual?

As history has shown throughout the world, no matter what negative beliefs humans are told regarding homosexuality, it will always be prevalent, for homosexuality is just as natural as heterosexuality. In August 2009, the American Psychological Association stated that mental health professionals should not tell gay clients they can become straight through therapy or any other treatments. The competition of trust regarding the APA against other institutions that support reparative therapies is absolutely non-existent.

We might eventually seek help from other institutions like churches or schools regarding personal problems. However we must remember that the way these other institutions will help to counsel is through studies and research released by institutions like the APA.

One of the beautiful aspects of being human is having the human conscience. However, as a downfall of this, humans have created too many ways of controlling other humans due to the weakness of the human conscience, one of them being

convincing the masses that sexual orientation is a choice. Stating that sexual orientation is a choice is absolutely wrong and is very dangerous to ones' psychological state.

As social creatures, humans desperately want to seek acceptance, doing whatever it takes to achieve this, even if it means going against nature. It is truly a travesty that the conversation about reparative therapies still exists in this day and age.

This is only a reminder LGBT rights still have not been met and are still considered second-class citizens. Any academic or civic institution should offer counseling as the only type of therapy regarding sexuality issues.

Therapy does not cause one to question his or her moral state or believe the concept of choice is the reason for sexual orientation or identity. If this country still wants to retain its leadership position, then the citizens need to stop acting like other countries regarding LGBT rights and start acting like leaders by taking steps to protect these individuals.

Tiffany R. Cooper is a senior in anthropology and political science. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

TO THE POINT

Editors share New Year's resolutions

TO THE POINT is an editorial selected and debated by the editorial board and written after a majority opinion is formed. This is the Collegian's official opinion.

To start off the New Year our editors have come up with their resolutions and resolves to be better students and people:

"My resolution this year, like every year for the past three years, is to quit smoking. I am happy to report that as of today I have been a non-smoker for 13 days. Yay me. It is a difficult task, but I am confident I will succeed this year. My motto: 'If you fail, you are not a failure because a failure fails to try.'

--Corene Brisendine
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"I never really make resolutions but I actually am this year. I have two quotes that I want to follow for the whole year to basically improve myself: 'Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to get angry' James 1:19, and also 'Make the most of yourself, for that is all there is of you' Emerson."

--Jordann Pfannerstiel
CAMPUS EDITOR

"I have never made resolutions; it's just one of those things that you'll forget about or gets pushed to the back burner when life gets hectic. I just focus on my long term life goals and doing what I have to in order to get there."

--Rachel Spicer
PRESENTATION EDITOR

"After never once sticking to a resolution in my entire life (or actually remembering what one of them was), this year I decided I wasn't making one."

--Bethaney Wallace
NEWS EDITOR

"My New Year's resolution is to not stress about the little things and to not complain, not even about Kansas weather."

--Kelley Price
MULTI-MEDIA EDITOR

"OK ... my new years resolution: I would like to quit smoking, and I want to make it to all of my classes every day for my last semester."

--Lauren Garrison
METRO EDITOR

"I want to get rid of the clutter in my life and stick to a schedule for once."

--Tommy Theis
PHOTO EDITOR

"I normally don't do New Year's resolutions. If I absolutely have to make one, I definitely would resolve to get more sleep and get all A's or something like that."

--Carlos Salazar
CO-DESIGN EDITOR

"My New Years resolution: not make any resolutions."

--Hannah Loftus
OPINION EDITOR

"To find myself this semester."

--Tim Schrag
EDGE EDITOR

kansas state collegian

Corene Brisendine
editor-in-chief

Lauren Garrison | metro editor

Grant Guggisberg | sports editor

Hannah Loftus | opinion editor

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KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

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Brick by Brick



Tommy Theis | COLLEGIAN

Matt Wagner, junior in regional and community planning, adds pieces to the rising walls of his LEGO fortress in Goodnow Hall.



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K-State Research and Extension is accepting applications for intern positions for Summer 2010 for various locations in Kansas.

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For more information, call Stacey M. Warner, 785-532-5790. K-State Research and Extension is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Playstation, Kobe shoes stolen

Hannah Blick | COLLEGIAN

Various electronics and clothing worth more than \$1,000 were stolen from a Lawrence man in Manhattan earlier this month, according to a report from the Riley County Police Department.

The theft occurred sometime between Jan. 4 and Jan. 12, said RCPD Lt. Herbert Crosby Jr.

The victim left his possessions in a vehicle, and when he returned eight days later, they were gone. The vehicle was mobile throughout the time, so the theft could have occurred anywhere, Crosby said.

No details were given on the vehicle's owner.

The victim, Ian Opit, 19, reported nine of his possessions stolen on Tuesday, Crosby said. The items include a Playstation 3 console, valued at \$600, and a Playstation 3 game, worth \$60.

Also reported stolen were two pairs of Dockers shorts,

two pairs of Dockers pants, a pair of Kobe shoes and an alarm clock, according to the report. The total loss was estimated at \$1,009.

No arrests in the case have been made.

ELECTRONICS STOLEN FROM VEHICLE

Several electronics, together worth more than \$1,000, were reported stolen out of a Manhattan woman's vehicle over Christmas break, according to a report from the Riley County Police Department.

The burglary occurred sometime between 8 p.m. on Dec. 22 and 10 a.m. on Dec. 23, said RCPD Lt. Herb Crosby. The theft was not reported until Tuesday.

The victim, Danielle Ligon, 22, 1215 Laramie Apt. 324, reported four items stolen from her 2000 GMC Yukon, which was parked outside her residence, Crosby said. There was no sign of forced entry on the vehicle.

The items include a 12-

inch kicker subwoofer, a TomTom GPS unit, a Canon digital camera and an iPod charger, according to the report. The total estimated value is \$1,020.

Crosby said there are usually a handful of burglaries from students' residences while they are out of town for the break. He advised students keep items hidden from view and lock all vehicles and residences while away.

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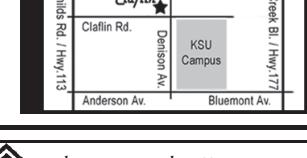
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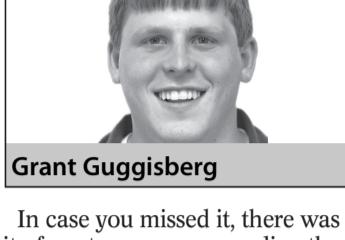
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88

Merriewether incident not a big deal



Grant Guggisberg

In case you missed it, there was a bit of controversy surrounding the Wildcat men's basketball team over break. No, it wasn't the 100-plus fouls called in the team's first two league games.

Instead, it was head coach Frank Martin's temper getting the best of him, as it often does verbally. However, Martin did something he's never (publicly) done before: he struck a player during a timeout.

Martin immediately realized his error and high-fived the player, reserve guard Chris Merriewether, but the damage had already been done. Unfortunately, this incident occurred on ESPN2 on a Saturday afternoon, amplifying Martin's mistake.

In the post-game press conference, Martin admitted what he did has no place in the game of basketball and showed genuine remorse. Merriewether said what happened was no big deal. When the team returned to Manhattan that evening, Merriewether and Martin both met with Athletic Director John Currie to discuss the incident. Currie later issued a statement saying he talked with both parties and that nothing like this would happen again.

Looking forward, what does this mean for K-State basketball? For future recruiting? For the future of Martin?

The answer is a tough one. Martin said himself that we now live in more sensitive times, noting the recent firings of several football coaches for mistreatment of players. He's right. If Currie was looking for an excuse to fire Coach Martin, he now has one.

In the end, I feel like the whole situation is overblown. First of all, Martin is an admittedly old-school guy. He's demanding, he's got a temper and he's not afraid to get in a player's face and make him better. The players in his program love him for it and came here to play because of it. And make no mistake, Martin loves them back.

Merriewether said after the incident that Coach Martin has had his back from day one and that he'll always have Martin's back. That shows the relationship between player and coach. Instead of amplifying things, he did everything he could to calm the waters.

Another reason this situation is overblown is because Merriewether deserved it. He had just muffed a rebound that cost the Wildcats a chance at a game-tying possession. The Wildcats had to foul, and Missouri ended the game at the free-throw line.

In the timeout immediately after this critical mistake, the guard is seen looking away instead of giving Martin his attention. Martin's reaction? Hit him in the arm and get his attention so he can continue to coach.

Merriewether's absence in Tuesday's game against Texas A&M makes the situation worse. If he could have had a good game in front of the home crowd, it would have helped to end the drama surrounding this situation.

It's unfortunate the confrontation occurred during a game that was nationally televised. Martin has talked about how being ranked helps recruiting because of all the national exposure you get each night on ESPN. Martin has found his exposure, but the incident probably won't help him on the recruiting trail.

Grant Guggisberg is a senior in print journalism. Please send comments to sports@pub.ksu.edu.

WEEKLY FAN POLL - JAN. 14

How would you rate the men's basketball season so far?

- A. A pleasant surprise
- B. Could have been worse
- C. About what I expected
- D. Could have been better
- E. A total disappointment

PREVIOUS RESULTS

Will you attend any K-State games over winter break?

- A. Yes - 192 votes (40%)
- B. No - 288 votes (60%)

Vote online at [kstatecollegian.com](#) and check next Tuesday's issue for this week's results.



Hot Shots

Men's basketball off to best start in over 30 years

Justin Nutter | COLLEGIAN

Before the K-State men's basketball team tipped off its 2009-10 campaign, experts were already regarding this year's team as one of the best in school history. So far, the Wildcats seem to have lived up to the hype.

While students were home for the holidays, K-State was adding to one of the best starts in school history, starting with a Dec. 19 showdown against Alabama in Mobile, Ala. Junior guard Jacob Pullen continued to garner national attention as he picked apart the Crimson Tide defense for a season-high 30 points and the Wildcats won their fourth straight game against a major conference opponent.

The win propelled K-State to a No. 12 ranking in the Associated Press poll – its highest since checking in at No. 9 on March 13, 1973.

The Wildcats wrapped up nonconference play with a three-game homestand against mid-major opponents. Pullen stayed hot, scoring 18 points in the first contest, but the Wildcats struggled in a 90-76 win over Arkansas Pine-Bluff in their last game before Christmas.

"This game is on me," head coach Frank Martin said after the contest. "We came into practice yesterday banged up and had some guys battling some injuries after the Alabama game. We came in yesterday and tried to coach them through their minds, and that did not work too well."

Perhaps a long break is all K-State needed to get back on track, as the Wildcats had no trouble disposing of Cleveland State after an eight-day vacation. Five Wildcats reached double figures in the 85-56 victory, and K-State moved to 12-1 for the first time since 1958-59.

That momentum carried over into the nonconference finale as the Wildcats pounded South Dakota 91-69. Pullen didn't miss a beat, draining six 3-pointers and scoring 23 points. The win pushed K-State's win streak to 10 games, marking the first time the Wildcats had accomplished that feat since 1993-94.

After the game, Pullen expressed his approval of the Wildcats' accomplishments, referencing a near-upset loss against Division II Fort Hays State as the turning point of the season.

"As a team, I think we did exactly what we needed to do," Pullen said. "After Fort Hays State, it showed us that we cannot take anything for granted. Since then, we have really been hands-on with our tempo, and I think we have been playing good basketball with each other."

That set the stage for K-State's Jan. 9 conference opener against the Missouri Tigers in Columbia, Mo. The game was tightly contested throughout – it featured 12 lead changes – but the Wildcats were unable to put a stop to Missouri's 29-game home winning streak and fell 74-68.

The loss featured numerous un-



Jonathan Knight | COLLEGIAN

Senior guard Denis Clemente puts up a shot Tuesday night against Texas A&M. Clemente scored a game-high 24 points as K-State crushed the Aggies 88-65.

characteristic mistakes, particularly by K-State's frontcourt. Sophomore Jamar Samuels was the only forward to reach double figures, and nearly all of the Wildcats' post players dealt with foul trouble.

Any memories of the poor performance were seemingly erased from the Wildcats' minds when they returned to action Tuesday night in Bramlage for an 88-65 thumping of Texas A&M. Behind the hot shooting of senior guard Denis Clemente,

K-State jumped out to a 13-4 lead and never trailed. Clemente caught fire early, scoring 20 of his game-high 24 points in the first half. He gave the Aggies fits from beyond the arc, knocking down five 3-pointers before intermission.

"[Clemente] does not like losing, and that loss a couple days ago did

not sit well in his stomach," Martin said. "He decided to put the team on his back, and he was going to find a way to win this game tonight."

K-State led 45-33 at the break and opened the second half on an 11-1 run to eliminate any chance of a Texas A&M comeback. As they have several times this season, the Wildcats enjoyed a balanced scoring performance, as four players reached double figures.

The victory extended the Wildcats' winning streak in Bramlage Coliseum to a school record 13 games. Martin now owns a 42-5 career record in Manhattan.

The Wildcats will look for their first conference road win on Saturday when they take on the Colorado Buffaloes in Boulder, Colo. Tipoff is slated for 3 p.m.

Lady Wildcats beat KU, win five over break

Grant Guggisberg | COLLEGIAN

While the Wildcats have played well since the student body left for winter break, it is their most recent win that has been the young season's biggest highlight.

The Wildcats (9-6, 1-0) opened Big 12 Conference play with a tough matchup, No. 24 Kansas. K-State held a narrow lead at half-time, just 24-22, but it widened the gap while its defense held Kansas to zero made field goals in its first 14 attempts.

They would go on to win 59-35, holding KU to just 13 second-half points. The Wildcats were led by their starting frontcourt, senior Ashley Sweat and junior Jalana Childs, who combined for 39 points to outscore the entire Kansas team.

"We knew going into Big 12 play that that was something that most teams probably weren't expecting from us," head coach Deb Patterson said after the game. "These two (Sweat and Childs) were just extraordinary with respect to their timing, their decision-making and the aggressiveness that they both showed at the right time."

More shocking than the win itself was the way the team won – with strong team defense. The Wildcats had not held a league opponent to less than 35 points since a 68-33 win over Iowa State in 2004. The win was also the ninth consecutive win in a Big 12 home opener.

"We did a great job, and they struggled today, and that's just the way the game played out," Patterson said. "I give all credit to our team really being attentive on each possession to their job and communicating. They played extremely well together today and, I thought, rebounded at a level that gave us a chance to limit possessions."

Patterson also said rebounding was important in limiting Kansas' looks at the basket and holding them to such a low score.



Jonathan Knight | COLLEGIAN

Sophomore forward Jalana Childs is helped off the floor after making a shot against No. 24 Kansas on Jan. 9 in Bramlage Coliseum. The Wildcats stunned the Jayhawks in a 59-35 upset.

"A lot of our defensive possessions ended with a defensive board, and I thought that was a big part of our success today," Patterson said. "It was a great performance defensively."

Of course, K-State did not play perfectly over break. They are currently on a season-high five-game winning streak but opened up the winter break with back-to-back losses to Northwestern and Hawaii. Besides the win over Kansas, the Wildcats beat Virginia

Commonwealth, Texas-San Antonio, UC-Davis and Yale over break.

This season the Wildcats are led by Ashley Sweat, who is averaging 18.5 points and six rebounds a game. Freshman guard Brittany Chambers is also averaging in double figures with 12.7 points per game.

Also over break, the K-State added former player Shalee Lehning to the coaching staff as a full-time assistant coach.

ART | Gallery in Union showcases work of students



Connie Fitzpatrick's work is on display in the Kemper Art Gallery located in the K-State Student Union until Jan. 21. Fitzgerald has a unique way of painting because she sometimes uses a credit card as a brush. Her work is also being exhibited in several stores in Hutchinson as well as the art center there.

Tommy Theis | COLLEGIAN

Continued from Page 1

2009 and received word back this spring.

"I saw UPC showed students' work and thought 'I have nothing to lose; rejection will happen at some point.' Plus, I wanted to get experience, and the earlier the better. I wanted to show people what I can do," Fitzpatrick said.

Fitzpatrick said she decided to attend K-State because it offered a friendly and pretty campus, as well as an outstanding art program with a scholarship she could not refuse. Although her apples theme started in the previous summer, her works displayed in the gallery are from this past fall semester. Fitzpatrick said she chose apples as the item of interest because of their shape.

"I like the natural shape, circles and waves," Fitzpatrick said.

The paintings are made with acrylic, spray paint and scratches made with sand paper to top it off. Fitzpatrick said she applies acrylic with credit cards or any type of

card to make the background, creating a smooth look, and the apples themselves are finger-painted.

"I hate brushes," Fitzpatrick said. "I use lots of toxicants. I need to stop using spray paint. I want to be more 'green.'"

Viewers can find Fitzpatrick's work not only at the Kemper Art Gallery, but in several stores in downtown Hutchinson and at the Hutchinson Art Center.

Fitzpatrick said she is hoping to sell some work because it would be nice to have some money.

"Don't worry," Fitzpatrick said. "I plan on doing more exhibits throughout my stay at K-State. With lots of ideas in mind, this is only the beginning. Definitely."

Fitzpatrick said her favorite work in the gallery currently is "You are IT Hide and Seek" because colors go well together. She also admires the story behind it: the three-in-one painting represents pure life, enjoying life as it is, being like a kid, going outside to play, nothing serious.

BOARD | Manhattan-area elementary schools struggle with turnover, low assessment scores

Continued from Page 1

last night's meeting was to give each of the elementary schools' principals the chance to read their report to the Board and to answer any questions regarding its content.

Each of the schools had some similar problems and issues they discussed, one of which was the high turnover rate. Manhattan's elementary schools have such high turnover rates as a result of the high percentage of military students in the schools.

Ogden Elementary School has the highest turnover rate of all the elementary schools, with only nine percent of the student population that has attended the school for an entire elementary career.

Jim Armendariz, principal of Ogden El-

ementary, said the school's low overall population has lost 40 kids from last year which resulted in the downsizing of two classes.

Another shared problem between the schools related to the military student population are low state assessment test scores. Each principal reported this as a major problem but could not provide a resolution.

"We worry a little bit about the kids who come to Woodrow," said Eric Kopps, principal of Woodrow Wilson. "We have kids at fourth and fifth-grade age that literally have not experienced school ... because they have never had the opportunity to do it before."

The high percentage of diverse students in each of the schools also causes issues

with state assessment scores because some of the students do not speak English as their native tongue. Some of the principals explained that with the large amount of kids flowing into and out of these schools from all over the world, it is hard to keep all the students in a set curriculum that would help improve the test scores.

However, there was quite a list of positive things happening in the elementary schools of the district. Currently, there are renovations being done at a couple of the schools; the principal of Amanda Arnold Elementary, Larry Liotta, said the school is in the middle of the construction process. Lee and Marlatt Elementary schools are also in the process of renovating.

Three of the six schools reported that they received some kind of grant for tech-

nology or resources for the schools. Most of the schools have projectors for many of their classrooms, and Ogden has a SMART Board in every room.

The meeting concluded with the discussion of a major problem for the entire district, not only the elementary schools: budget. The president of the Board, Nancy Knopp, said the district will have to deal with about \$3.4 million in budget and programming cuts.

"This is more than we've ever had to go through before, but we'll get through it," Knopp said. "We have to."

According to the district's Web site, the next Board of Education meeting will be January 20 at 6:30 p.m. All who are interested in attending these meetings are encouraged to attend.

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